

isp50cmc309

Ambleside

October 20th, 1900

My dear Friend,

I am greatly delighted dear about Sydney's report; give the dear boy my love and tell him he does us all credit. Yes, I think your efforts have been justified, your Syd's cleverness is precisely of the kind that would not have told in ordinary school work without such special preparedness as you have given him, i.e. such ideas of interest connected with all learning that he can now see through the dullness of task work and the boy's fine intellect will have free play. It is an epoch in a young Mother's life when she gets her boy successfully into school routine and I congratulate you lovingly. It is a reward for years of insight and endeavour. I send it back, but Mrs. Wm. Brown is asking poor Mr. Roper to expatiate on P.U.S. and it would be a help to him.

A rambling epistle from

Your^l always loving friend,

C.M.

isp51 cm 1309

DICTATED.

Ambleside.

16th January, 1901

You are the very nicest person, dear! Not because you have written me a nice pretty letter and not because you have left many pleasant memories behind you and not because you were a charming guest, and not because B.P. praises your looks - - but - - because - - I have this morning received a paper entitled, "The Home Training of Children."

I have purred over it a great deal and hugged the writer. It is good and very good that you know the true inwardness of us as you do.

As a literary production M'am, I should like to congratulate you on its success. It is most strong and convincing and goes straight to the mark in a way that will convince intelligent schoolmasters.

There was an interesting article in the "Times" yesterday on Mr. Sadler's yellow Book and I looked eagerly for mention of you.

Of course this must be one of our pamphlets. It is just what we want to open the eyes of parents.

I longed for you yesterday. It was such a brilliant day. Barrow took me out and talked much of "Master Sydney." The new people have come and I think they are a promising set but of course there were a few ["]half bricks flying["]. I have had a nice letter from Mrs. Winkworth this morning in

which she talks of coming ~~here~~, partly to see us. She will stay at Lowood or Rigg's Hotel and a friend from Glasgow who is recovering from a gastric attack will meet her there, so I shall have an opportunity to talk over the garden party. Please give much love to all the children and thank Sydney and Madge for their very nice letters and tell them I enjoyed my guests as much as they enjoyed their visit. Is not that always true? Please also give my friendly greetings to Mr. Franklin and thank him for his kind note. I am glad he thinks "well" of his family. You say nothing about drains and plumber is all right.

I rejoice to hear of a little improvement in Miss Dowson.

Give my love to B.P. You don't say how she is.

With dear love,

Ever yours C.M.

Love from V.P. and K. K.

P.S. Tables are taught in arithmetic time!!

Can I have half a dozen of those pamphlets?

25p53 cmc 309

Villa Langsdorf
Bad Nauheim

August 12th, 1900

It is good to get a screed from your own self, my dearest; though the combined screed was too amusing and delightful for anything. I saw you laughing and writing as you wrote.

It is good hearing that "B.P." means to prepare another real P.N.E.U. Lecture for the autumn. Have you been stirring her up too? I believe you have. So people are feeling a little mimsy, because B.P. has gone. I have had a lovely notion from her ^{that} ~~but~~ there is a hope of getting you and the Squirrel for me - 25th September to October 3rd. The idea is too delightful but mind, my lady A., it is only to make up for the shortness of the later visit, not at all as a substitute for it. That I won't hear of. Of course you will come and see me when I come to my "London Home" otherwise I might elect to stay at the Harz for good. Is it to be the Harz? The Klein Professor will not yet decide; not unless it becomes greatly warmer; otherwise Switzerland. We go on Friday next. I told him this morning that a fair lady had sent him so sweet a message that I could not give it him, the little man is not without some childish vanity and was eager ~~but I don't~~.

but I declined. "Give her my love," - luff, he called it, he said as he was going forth.

I am distressed, dearest, to hear of that tiresome malady threatening you again, the more so as I believe it means being run down. Give Miss Bradley my love and blessings, she is a good girl to give my friend help when she needs it. You did get through a lot of reading with the dear P.B.,

The "Choir Invisible" is sweet and restful. Don't be shocked, but I did not know the force of the title till somebody gave me a book of Poets' Prayers. I have bestowed it on Mrs Firth who has twice written to say how much she likes it, especially that poem, and I have never answered her remarks, nor told her who gave me the book, but that will come.

How odd that you have been reading Tolstoy's new book; I also have read a few chapters. It is most exhilarating. I failed to get my Russian books in French, so am reading that and a volume of Turgenev in German. Four little volumes of Tolstoi and Turgenev's "King Lear of the Steppes" very charming. "Tess" is disappointing; Hardy's contention of a pure woman disappears with one's enjoyment and his splendid writing. Life is a nice place, dear, because one has the people one wants; of course it could be nicer, if they were just here.

* School Education

isp58amc309

Romers Hotel Rathhouse
Grund am Hertz

23.8.1900

How I wish you were here my dearest. Not for my satisfaction, of course not! but because the very air of the place breathes rest. I never was in such a restful place. As far as actual beauty goes I suppose your "Ambleside Home" is a more beautiful country but forest overpowers everything else here, and the soothing of the pines is just astonishing. I was dismissed with a mighty good character, plainly into our dear doctor's good keeping for the little man refrained from instructions except that I am to go again next year and for 30 years. I expect I shall go in a box for some of those years. I have been working at 'your book', but it needs strenuous thinking and I have to leave off for a bit, one must recognise ones limitations and there is always B.P. in a vision to make one behave. I share your longing to take care of her a little bit. How you must have enjoyed having her
Tell ^{me Squirrel} ~~me Squirrel~~ news

I gaze at every child of his age for his sweet sake and find my unsightly cushions quite interesting because the little head~~xxx~~ has nestled on them. There, fond mother - is that enough! Or do you want three pages more of Cyril: you shan't have them so there. I am sitting in ashes for being so selfish as to ask you to come up when ^{you} pass through. It is wicked to encourage your friends in wickedness; so don't come. You maybe quite sure that your maids will have everything quite comfy. I am not quite

happy about you, dearest; you are not resting and you are not well. I wish I had you to take care of. Tell me how things are. I can't rejoice in the Brighton speech & good as it will be for us - while I am anxious about you. Miss Matzke I find is printed, and has probably been mended so I shall ~~probably~~ not find it impossible by and bye. No dear, I can't make much of the foreign idea; it is an editor's business to publish good English wherever it comes from, and I smite myself about one Conference paper which I failed to edit; guess which? The others did not need it.

Mrs. Clement Parsons' paper is excellent, and has many striking things in it. I am not sure that I think it so good as some other things she has written, though. I still like Mr. Brice *g/* as a wholesome straightforward address. I must not write more for we are going for a lovely drive this afternoon to Clausthal and I want to keep fresh.

It is sad, but I fear I must forego the holland frock. It is good to see you soon in any garment,

Says yours,

C.M.

557cm309
Romers Hotel Rasthaus

Grund am Hartz

September 1st, 1900

Listen, dearest to our return programme. We leave here Wednesday next, the 5th; are at Cassel Hotel Konig von Preussen until the 10th. I want to see some pictures there.

Cologne 10th, Ostende 12th; cross 12th; pray ~~your~~ ye hospitality of your loving friend for nights of 12th and 13th and return home on 14th.

Have you made up your mind to encourage your friend in wicked selfishness? If so, just think of it! I shall see 'somebody' in little more than a week. I want to see Girlie; I have not seen her for a year. But I want to have Somebody Else all to myself for ever so little a time; we shall be ever so all right the evening we arrive and the Lady of the House will come in state the next morning. Miss Kitching is arranging to go to her father's who will go with her to her oculist, so you will have to devise something for Girlie's amusement for part of the time; and then is it true that in a week after that, I shall get you! A delightful trinody with Cyril for the vox humana stop; it is just delicious, the sort of thing that is so nice, you can see nothing else after. 'Tis after that, the deluge. Do humans ever grow up? Or are we always children? I rejoice to get good word of Lady A. confirmed by B.P. who tells me she had never seen her more "brilliantly" herself, so I took great joy.

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Miss Matzke's paper: the very bad English is the difficulty. She wrote and asked for it to be returned at once, so I hoped the matter was at an end. The doctoring of such a paper is an awful task, one would much rather write a paper; so unless you really care very much about the matter, I should rather not undertake so troublesome a task. "No space" is a sufficient answer. Certainly that is true for October and I think November.

I am getting tired so musn't write more.
Miss Hitching has gone to church; and I am having a good time with somebody else!

The September visit is a great cheer and joy but mind, Madam, if you talk as B.P. did about putting the Squirrel's little precious head under anybody's else 's roof, why you may just take a return ticket.

Auf ~~w~~iedersehen,

Yours C.M.

25p59cmc309

6th September, 1900

Hotel Konig von Breussen

Cancel

My dearest,

Just a line to tell you how well all goes and how dearly I look forward to seeing you in London and how glad I was of your dear letter. Give Mrs. Glover my love, I think it is very good of her to let you come up for the day. You do not tell me about her two little boys.

'Little Sec' will have to see her eye doctor at 10 in the morning, so will be quite available in the afternoon. I wonder would Girlie like to show her the S. Kensington Museum. I have often thought I would like her and Sydney as Cicerone there. I find all the persons between 18 months and two years very interesting and have things to tell you of two or three. I will not speak of the things in your letter, till we meet, except that I am very glad about Miss Bradley. There is a delightful market going on in the Platz before our window all sorts of pretty vegetable and frocks and pretty simple life. We had an hour or two at Gottengen yesterday, waiting for a train. Do you know it? A beautiful and delightful old town with whole streets of picturesque old houses, decorated as we don't know how to do it.

Dear dear love to my Netta,

C.M.

25p60cmc309

Yes, dear, I know what a ^{Thou} ~~Natur Kind~~ ^{pickered} ~~trunk~~ art
and how to rub your cheek against a likened trunk will
be all the joy you want for the moment, but I think it would
be too good to have you here in the silence, a too full cup;
so let us take what is.

Do you think I am going to write you a letter?
Not a bit of it. When the day after tomorrow or so, I get
you face to face; besides, am I not making "your book" -
merciless task mistress! One word more, what do you
mean by ruining me in methylated (is that how to spell it)
spirits? Pints and pints pints and pints at $1\frac{1}{2}$ a pint!
I shall bring an action against you. Can you guess what
particular action I should like it to be at this moment?
Give it up? - Dull person!

Ever thy,

C.N.

isp61cunc309/

15th February, 1901

How kind of you, dearest, to spare me a line when you are so busy and when things are going contrariwise. That is how we are feeling here too; we have got over the influenza, but are feeling limp and cross. The half-term holiday is to be on Monday, after which I hope we shall be straight. Will you ask the Bishop of Wakefield to do the religion paper, and take heart, dear, the Conference is always good. Please say your say re. students, dear. I have avoided putting in names that have appeared before, but if you would prefer those, or any of them, I do not mind at all. Miss Nesbitt for example. Of course I shall gladly write to them. That is a little bit of trouble I can easily save you. I understand that you are not pleased with the students, dear. Neither am I at all. I have read their "Umile Pianta" and think they have managed to be ungracious as well as ungrateful. Please forgive them and be good to them all the same. I shall write to students next week.

Your paper is coming. I read it once again with pleasure and then forgot it.

How is Michael Fairless? And how is the dear B.P. I want to write to her. What a lovely Cyriliama! Like a small creature in Heidelberg who pulled me along to see her rabbits and then dismissed me. But Cyril chose art.....

Yours lovingly,

C.M.

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Ambleside
April 8th, 1901.

Just one word of loving greeting, dearest,
on your birthday. There are many things I want to say, but
I shall be "bullied" if I write much, so just send
heart-greetings.

No daffodils for her this year, because
Easter falls about her birthday. The students have made
ineffectual raids and got 4 flowers, the excursionists had
walked off with everything. I hope she will like the nice
quiet story book which has glaced me much these last weeks.
She is to read it restfully out of doors in Hants.

If you have read Richard Farvel already you
can give it me back when I come and I shall find something
else. I think you will like to have Thomas Brown^c. It will
be nice to have dear R.P. at Shap. I think it will do her
good too. I am very much better.

Again, dear love,

Ever yours, C.M.

isp63anc309 ✓

April 27th, 1901.

Your baby is the Ash, dearest, and I send you another. My heart was not up to the play so I had to ask Miss Hodgson I am so glad that the dear Natur-kind is having full joy of the spring and I keep on longing for her to see all the beauties that appear. We are growing day by day too lovely for anything - come. I shall have my paper ready in time, dear, though I could not do much this week. However, it is half done and another morning or two will finish it. I have seen three or four of the students' papers which I think will do more or less. I am ever so sorry about your sister Lily's paper. Hero worship versus Schwärmerie^{el} should make a good paper if it could be treated very simply; but it is cruel to propose another paper to her at the 11th hour. How good of her to be willing to take so much trouble. I thought the last part of the paper you sent me might be taking as the opening of a paper confining itself to literature as one of our chief sources of ethical teaching.

The soul of this house is in its heels at the present moment, and Miss P. has done well. I like to think of the B.P. going to you on Monday and telling you all about Shap and the Seven Sons of Belial, and how the malignant bath chair took me abroad on the moors and how we had tea-basket tea. She has put me under orders and I am meek and know what is for my good though I can't pretend to enjoy limitations

isp64Cmc309 ✓

but I am in bed to-day, so I recognise facts.

Sweet Cyril! Don't let him grow
any older till I come

It is delightful to hear of your reading
"Ourselves" to the children.

Farewell, darling,

Everyours,

C.M.

25p65 cmc309

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Ambleside

May 7th, 1901.

Here it is. Such as it is, dearest ! - Anyway your idea of sending my ideas forth with a comet-like train of students' ideas is a most brilliant idea - worthy of Lady A. Will you make the MS over to Mrs. Glover with my love and grateful thanks for her good offices?

The stress of the Conference reaches me and I long and long to be there. I hear from one and another and am asked if I am coming. Don't I just wish I were. I am hoping that you are ever so well after that joyous time at South Stoneham. You don't know how I enjoyed the picture of you and B.P. and the chicks having such a feast of the Spring.

We are all in a ferment about E.A.'s puzzle and isn't her dear ladyship enjoying our discomfiture! - "excessively common" indeed! Miss Hodgson's last suggestion is that they are the bulbels of a common garlic which does not grow here. Tell nurse she just has given us "riddle."

This is only a line to say that all my thoughts are with you and the Conference.

Dear Love,

Ever yours,

C.M.

isp66emc309
J

AMBLESIDE

20th May, 1906.

I wish I were writing to you with my own hand, dearest, but you must have a letter at once and I am not up to much to-day, perhaps because of the fast living which Conference week causes in us all even when we are not on the spot.

Dear - come by the 2 p.m. train this very day, that is the day you get this letter. You know you owe me a visit to take me to Nauheim and I will have this instead. We have a measles in the cottage, perhaps two, but B.P. will tell you if there is any risk (also she will tell Miss Russell). And now, what shall I say about the Conference?

But to return to our muttons, just wire to say you are coming. I am aching to hear about everything from your own lips and you can't write me the necessary volumes and volumes. It was more than sweet of you to write me such a good long screed for you must have been just dead tired. ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~

B.P. too wrote me a sweet little note in which she says it has been "a wonderful time of inspiration refreshing and reunion."

You don't know how much I am making of you in my soul for the Conference is your Baby or rather your five year old, and is the most blessed, healthy, happy, holy child that Mother could desire

I just love Lady Campbell for backing you up so well and Lady Aberdeen for being so devoted and nice, B.P. of course.

I am sorry for Lady Helen Lacey; tell me when you write how

her husband is. The newspaper cuttings are very nice. I am glad the pretty children were mentioned.

I am glad too that Miss Russell did so well. I am afraid the week after Whitsuntide won't suit me as it on on the cards that Mrs. Dallas Yorke may come then; I wait to hear. You will say that Miss Russell could not make any difference but you know ever such a trifle throws me over the plank and I am anxious to keep going. Any two people, even Mrs. Firth and Florence take lots more out of me than one does.

I am so glad you did a roaring trade in books, "for though on pleasure she was bent, she had a frugal mind." Stick to your pretty chairwomen, dear; I am very weak about pretty women and love the look of us on the platform.

I am greatly delighted about L's paper. The thought of 20 hours extra work rather pained me but how well worth while! I long to see her paper and am very ready to believe that it was "really inspired." That is why she is so strong.

I am glad Mr. Rowbotham was good with the children. How nicely dear Lady Aberdeen has behaved all the time. I have no doubt people liked to listen to her though her speech was long and slow. I have never thought her very strong as a speaker. The little contre-temps about the letter amuses me. I'm not going to be scolded Ma'am. I exercised most masterly self-control in not saying a great deal more - so there now!

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I long to know all about the Concrete Problems and everything.

Sweet Cyril! he gets sweeter and sweeter. Please to leave a "lickle" of his sweetness for when I come. I rejoice that Miss Allen has got over her philosophy phase; her school papers are very good this time.

It will be quite absure of you not to come so, please do. I feel like drowning you under a perfect waterfall of love and blessings,

Ever yours,

C.M

15p69 emc309 ✓

21st May, 1901

A thousand thanks to the sweet friend for letting me know things go and how well all things go. I woke myself up yesterday morning saying inanely:- "Oh the dear, dear Conference" A thing I should never have said in the world with my eyes well opened. I rejoice especially at what Lady A. does and that your sister L's paper promises to be first rate. I was so vexed for her. Give my warmest thanks to Mrs. Glover for her beautiful reading. I owe her much, for that sort of paper needs to be interpreted. How lovely about the nurses' Meeting, but I do wish they'd ~~have~~ had Miss Webb's in full force. I hear she read Dr. Wilson's most beautifully

I shall write to Mr. Paton. I am glad he was so good. Why, the Grasmere gingerbread was for you and B.P. There wasn't enough to go round. We have just discovered measles in the House so are much disturbed, so I can only send a line,

Dear, dear love

from C.M.

15 p70 unc 309

Ambleside,

November 18th 1901.

A thousand welcomes home, dearest ! I can fancy the general joy at 50 Porchester T. I shall be very glad of a P.C. to tell me how you are. What sort of a journey you have made, and how you found the family and Cyril!

How good of you to get me those beautiful photographs. They are exactly what I prefer, and I feel you must have taken much thought over them. I like to think of you and B.P. with the book at your hotel.

How is the dear patient? I can't think London fogs are the thing for her throat - do send her to us for a while. We shall take the greatest care of her.

We have all taken the greatest interest in your journeyings and you have been ever so good in keeping us informed. I am sending a big business letter as well,

Ever loving,

Yours C.M.

isp71cmc309

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Nov. 19th 1901

And are you sure the news is true? The news that they are coming in just a few days' time, it is too delightful, dearest! I believe skating and tobogganing and all winter joys will be possible. You will have a most big budget to unfold to me by word of mouth. Italy, the Stewart's beautiful place, Birmingham and London, we shall talk for ever! I am ever so well, and that after ~~f~~earing that I must go to some sort of baths this winter to be able to hold on. Tell the children how much I look forward to seeing them. I am glad you have got Miss Hammond as the children get on with her. I thought I was to sleep the student, but it will be better as it is because it would worry you to have to send her up in the evening on a bad night, besides she might be wanted at night.

Mrs. Gibson is in great feather. Such cleaning and brushhingup as I hear of. I still think it is the best place. The houses near here are too gloomy, the sun will go down for them between 1 and 2; whereas you will have it till 4. But it pure waste of time to talk to you now, darling, when you are coming so soon.

Dearest love,

Ever yours,

C.M.

15p72 cmc309

Ambleside.

November 30th, 1901.

Well done, dearest !! and three cheers for the latest child of P.N.E.U. I am just full of joy about it. We live and grow and are blessed from above, so I do believe. I have left your letter for Sunday and now am rather tired and have my class presently, so can't write much. But I am much better, well enough to take to myself the joy of your coming and I shall see Cyril and my other friends. It is horrid that you will be so far away, but I could not bear you to be in any of the houses opposite - they look north and are gloomy and to come up here will be just a little run for the children on bad days and, as for you, IF you should be asked to dinner(!) why, dearest, of course your bed will be made up all the time and the chicks will be quite safe with nurse whenever you are away. I shall enjoy seeing her again and, as for the student, won't the ~~fix~~ Glendinnens do? They were a great resource last year. It's just too good to be true, so send me a P.C. at once to tell me when you are coming. I wait with anxiety for your last word about the school but you can do nothing till you hear from Miss Rankin. Also, I long to hear about the widow lady secretary so soon as you hear. That nice Mrs. Murphy might do if she is well enough. I liked her letter much,

Say when!

Ever yours, C.M.

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Ambleside, Dec 2nd, 1901.

I think, dearest, Miss Mucklow, who is highly educated, most sweet-natured and who has the habit of girls well on in their teens, and has no end of interesting experiences to talk about, - she could teach Madge music, harmony, Latin and Mathematics if you wished it. Miss Lawrence would worry the girlie. Miss Bernau is attractive, but is an uncertain quantity, and I am not sure she would settle down. You had better keep Miss Mucklow in tow. An Irish lady is making hard for her, and she likes Ireland. She is a charming person to behold.

I read this month's P.R. with delight: only one branch emits a feeble note - the vigour an the others is delightful. I see you advertise for an assistant secretary. Would not Miss Allen do for that? I think the thought of getting you at Xmas is doing me lots of good.

Dear love,

Yours ever, C.M.

I am ashamed to have made you ask again who succeeds Miss Hodgson. - Miss Barnett. Don't exclaim, she is enthusiastic, utterly P.N.E.U. really has a mind, and is very strong in voice production which she learned from a first rate teacher in Paris. Mr. Rooper much pleased: he saw her work in Bedford.

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ScaleHow January 29th 1902.

It is good to hear of you, dearest. It seems months since we said good bye. So many things have crowded in upon you and upon us.

Poor Mr. Y I send you a copy of a statement I am sending him as it will give you information you want. Of course you cannot know, Dearest!

I have read with great stirrings of heart your eloquent, cultured, strong, just and wise paper!2 It should be read in all the Branches after. It is good to keep it for new branches and I feel it is a splendid tool in our hands. It has done me good!

Dearest love,

C.M.

How good that book of Tolstoi is! If P.N.E.U. had only made you it has done a truly great work. Of course you would have been clever and good anyway, but the directions you have taken is so good for the world! There's a dish of sugar plums for you!

I want the paper to be printed and sown broadcast!
You and B.P. are a host.

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an
Ship Wells Hotel ✓

April 2nd 1902.

Your letter was a delight dearest, and soon I am going to write to you about many things in it. but just now I am bursting with virtue - trying to get the Conference papers done before we leave here and I can't let myself have the pleasant distraction of writing to you.

Take care of yourself, Queen of Hearts, and get strong. I have been cherishing you much of late - partly you, and partly my Chela. I thank God very much for you dear - whatever comes of me, P.N.E.U. is safe. Please tell Mrs. Clement Parsons how delighted I am about the Temple Bar paper. We are safe in her hands, are we not? It is good that she goes on the lines of your pamphlet.

I am glad Madge goes to Ireland. We are having good and sunny weather here.

Your ever loving

C.M.

25p76amc309

Ambleside,

May 11th 1902

What a lovely letter, dearest! The Conference is almost too much for me. It is overpowering and my only comfort is that you are coming to tell me about everything. I am hungry for you.

The students were planning "rewards" at dinner - even to giving up their Saturday afternoons to work in order that they might have "sports" for you on Friday, but then, I want to take you for a drive - and - and - and - you must not give us less than ^aweek anyhow - as much more as your love will give us.

About Mrs. Glover, I shall love to have her but after you have gone - the limitation is really vexing to me because I am a hospitable soul on the whole, but I go out ~~and~~ a great deal to people and two personalities at once simply drain me. Even you and B.P. are too much for me, how much more any body else. If people are not in the same room, it is all the worse - I think of them.

Then, we shall have such great things to talk of!

All shall be arranged to your mind,

Make haste!

Yours in dearest love,

G.M.

25p740mc 309

Scale How,

27th May 1902.

Dearest Chela,

How nice of you to write me such a nice long screed - and I know how busy you must be. I wish you had good news to tell me of Cyril - precious little boy!

There was a picture in the "Daily Graphic" of the Club Girls at drill - most interesting. I shall read to the students about your "by-products."

Life goes on here very steadily, but the dear people are alive in a good many directions, i.e. are realising relationships. I am pleased with the hearty way in which they are taking up the Botanical Garden. One person has already got 33 sorts of ferns. I am sending you an extract from the last and best book in plants which took away my breath - and will take yours. Is it possible that we are on the trail of a principle as universal, if not as causatious as evolution -

Your story increases my love for Sydney. It is so good to see him thinking and feeling truly. It is a gain for him, as for every youth and maiden, to know when it ceases to be right to keep a promise. You will find remarks on the subject in a fragment of amazing virtue entitled, "Ourselves". etc.

For your field day (June 4th) one word - State our theory and practice - but attack nothing. ^B The indignant at nothing - (save and except dumb bells, of course!). When people's minds are

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put on the defensive, they have no power to receive new ideas. Am I right?

Miss James might be a good ally. Should I send you some school exam papers to illustrate our sort of work? Your nice lady comes to us on Monday and stays till Wednesday morning. Tell me about the morality play and tell me if B.P. thought you looking well and refreshed.

You were a great joy dear,

Yours ever lovingly

C.M.

"Mullah"

I asked what the old ?
was called and is that how to spell it?

isp79mc309

Ambleside,
June 7th, 1902.

To night she has one of the two big dinners.
Tell me about it and about them on the 9th.

You are a wonderful "Chela" darling, and my heart sings with joy over your letters. I don't care "typpence" about the ~~conversion~~ of Mr. Russell. I recognised him for a "leopard" and you know, I believe there are leopards with fixed spots - herein lies the whole of my contention with the Beloved B.P. Why of course! and many times of course! You and she are to me as right and left hand - the only people who know are we three - various students -

But again I say, 'twould be better if we 3 denounced P.N.E.U. and went bodily over to some alien camp than that we should announce by fixing our name to said "camp" that it's all as bread as it's long, and the one society is pretty much the same as the others.

Don't you see - most clear-headed of Chelas - we cannot be on two opposing sides of any question (written "?" and you, who are getting such an admirable precision of thought, to think I meant anything against B. P. - please ma'am I believe I loved and honoured B.P. before ever you did and I am not changeable.

I have whole volumes to write to you, but

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can't write more. As for the K.A.S. - scores of masters may be dismissed, but the School is a leopard, the spots were shewn at that Conference four years ago, wherefore I steadfastly refused to be on their Council, etc., etc.

I am too dead tired to write another word but volumes are in my heart for you.

I have already written to B.P. asking if her exquisitely delightful paper - absolutely P.N.E.U. - may not be made a pamphlet. I shall write to Cttee. when I get her answer but I had meant to commit the matter.

I think the *battle royal* is a valuable lesson to us in helping us to distinguish between things that differ,

With dear, dear love,

C.M.

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House of Education

Jan. 8th 1903.

Let me see - $27 - 8 = 19$: 19 days till you come, dearest! It will be very good to have you and you shall be fed on bread and milk or bread and water and generally neglected if so you desire - only come! I missed you dreadfully the first fortnight of the holidays but now I have you to expect. I am quite nice and well while I do nothing and really the penance has been good for my sins. Also, I rejoice that you have had sunshine and have been much out. We have had rather miserable weather here.

Think of Sydney and Johnston. You must talk to the students about setting up "family" literary evenings at their posts. I have never heard of their doing so. Also, bring your papers to read to them. I saved it for you. Also, and also - a thousand things which shall keep till you come - tell me about Miss Webb.

The dear E.P. came back with lumbago, but she is mending well. How good and how good that you are coming.

Ever yours,

C.M.

Dearest New Years Eve. The little tree fascinates me.

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S Y N O P S I S

Shap Wells Hotel

April 7th 1903.

Dearest,

Very loving birthday greetings to my beloved friend.

I should have been wicked enough to woo you to come here for your birthday only the weather has been so impossible. A continuous high gale ever since we came here but it gives the chance of quiet work and that is a great thing just now. My thoughts are much with you. Is the whole family at South Stoneham I am afraid you are very tired, but we both have a right to be tired for we have got a great thing out of hand. I have been in a state of nervous overstraining (though very well) since that day last February, was it not when you took me out of the slough of despond and set the ideas in motion that have resulted in the school register and the synopsis. I want you to realise by way of a birthday gift how far the whole thing is due to your stimulating sympathy, even more than to your efforts. God bless you, sweet friend, for all you have done for our great cause. Your one-ness with me in it all is simply a vital thing to me, and now it is all done. The circular is simply splendid so neat and complete a thing had not entered my thoughts, and of course it obviates all further questions for ever re committee and so on. How clever you are. I had thought only of separate slips, and here it is all done. A truly great possession for us, an historical fact in education,

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think. Nice good children used to be allowed ~~on~~ their birthdays to make presents, and so the circular comes as your birthday gift to me. I am sending you, Lord Acton, really light literature (to hold). Is it really very bad of me to have cut it before sneding it? But I know you will like me to have enjoyed it. I think you will delight in his balanced judgment. We have no flowers, dear, and you have there. So once, more dearest, love and joy in the days that gave you to us. Do tell me some family news. No nurse yet?

Ever your loving,

C. M.

I enclose the K.P. circular (uncorrected) and have entreated them to send 3,000 to the Office as soon as the printers send them. The 2,000 for the P.R. would do later. I send corrections for circular to you as Miss A. wouldnot know how to deal with them without consulting you.

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House of Education,

11.3.1903

Dearest,

How sweet of people to send little notes to their friends. Now that is a nice occupation for the leisure of the next two months! I longed for you yesterday and today but two very different sorts of effects. I am better but still feel that the conies are a feeble folk. Lady A. has left all sorts of sweet impressions behind her. I hear her praises from B.P. Miss Armitt, etc. How nice about the Reigate branch and how good for it to have B.P.! Give her my dear love.

Thank you very much for the tea jacket pattern and please give my warm thanks to Vatcher. She has made a beautiful pattern. If I were not afraid of being troublesome, I should ask her to buy the "just 20" materials and steal your jacket for a day when you don't want it - but I expect you do every day.

Kit Kit and I have been looking out for years for a garment that should enable me to wear out a dress and here it is.

What nice breezy news about Cyril.

"Fret not thyself" says the Psalmist, and I have been fretting myself greatly because I cannot move in "Education" just now and behold I turn round and scold my best beloved P.N.E.U. Mea culpa! One thing I should like to say and that is that I have always admired the perfect simplicity of Lady A's dealings with the members and how Mrs. Snooks is just the same to her as the Duchess of Fitzroy! But you understand,

isp 85 cmc 309

✓

don't you?

There is another futile article on Education in the XIXth Century this month - quite, quite futile and I get cross about it. But never mind, we are doing good foundation work and a little leaven leavens the whole lump so, "that's all right Best Beloved" and you must not let people who fret when they should not, put you out of heart.

What a nice little cutting from B.P. All are interesting,

Dear love,

Ever yours

C.M.

(E. Kitching)

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House of Education

Ambleside

17.6.1903

Dearest,

Now I do think it most truly kind both of Mrs. Parsons and you to have made this quite just criticism. The paper did lack clearness and adhesion: it was burdened with quotations and it most distinctly did lack form and style. I value Mrs. Parsons' sincere and friendly protest sincerely and your true kindness in sending it on to me, I should not have been pleased at all if you had withheld it.

As you know, I have had a bad year until within the last two or three weeks and I try to affect a junction between two scraps one written last summer and one at Christmas as I was not up to writing a paper. The result is precisely what Mrs. Parsons describes. I am not sure as to her verdict about the children's answers. It is upon them I depend to convince the world, so much so that I think my own paper passed with too little notice from me, but I am heartily glad to be saved from letting it be published as it in pamphlet form. I shall go over it carefully and hope to make it more worthy of what I think is a great occasion for us all. Possibly it will be better to put the children's answer as an appendix. They really do surprise people, as you know, as it is from them and not from any arguments of mine that we may venture to hope for better things. I am entirely of your mind about the delay, for every reason and especially for the reason that you want rest. I think with you that the pamphlet had better go out with the Conference

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programme. I think though it must not appear in the Review until October. It would go out stale. It is in print, Cowell had it before your first suggestion of delay, but he will hold it over and probably the corrections will not be multitudinous.

I am just ever so grateful to you, dear, and please give my love and grateful thanks to Mrs. Parsons

Yours ever,
C.M.

Please do not mind about giving me trouble. I have really had two or three weeks of actual help and mean to be really prudent. I shall take the paper with me and put on its best clothes nicely. I hope to come to you on the 6th when we can talk over everything.

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11
DICTATED

St. James Hotel
Paris.

23.9.03

Dearest,

What a beautiful and delightful letter came to me here this morning, forwarded from Lucerne. Meanwhile, no doubt, you have got mine, written there telling you of our little Ausflug here and asking you to take us in on Saturday until Monday.

What a pure delight it will be to hear from the dear children of their doings. Yes, I know, they are perfectly simple and humble and will always be without the detestable air of the informed person who is able to tell you in rather a priggy way all about everything. But there are things which they get from their mother, if you will believe me! You are quite right - my heart sings with joy over the whole story.

We are not limited to the Aristotelian ~~notion~~ notion that how you spend your leisure shows how far you are educated, but that's just a bye-issue of our larger notion of Relations, is it not? and any way, it's an amazing test. We have been really sorry to see the aimlessness of so many holiday keepers. They have expected somebody to fiddle for them and then are too lazy to dance. It's a melancholy thing not to be able to entertain yourself in your hours of leisure. Behold, my Lady A., a gospel which you have to preach, but I shall talk ~~there~~ about it when I come.

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I do enter, dearest, into your thankfulness for the precious restored daughter - a new birth, and for the keen interest in whatsoever things are worth while of the two. I agree with you Olive is a mission and a sweet and promising mission too. If you give me leave, I shall try to persuade Miss Mackenzie to give her at least another year. Of course I see how inviting Edinburgh is and can make many excuses but we do not live by excuses. Also, V.P. writes me of two good students who are wanted in their holiday posts for always and always and I fear there may be others engaged that I have not heard of and I should not like you to choose out of a remainder. Anyway we have time before Christmas when somebody good may be leaving her post then.

You have been to lots of delightful places that I don't know but know of and have longed for an opportunity of seeing. It's good that you appreciate Wensleydale. It is by its dales that one knows Yorkshire. It was a great deal more interesting to make out your own tour than to take one described by the Railway Company or other "intimidates". Kit Kit is seeing her first Paris and is greatly entertained. This is our first day here. She explored a little this morning and in the afternoon we went for a drive and saw various matters. We leave, as you know, on Saturday after three days here. It gives me real pleasure to see Paris again. Do you know this hotel? A wonderful woman
/manages....

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it most comfortably, but the people are nearly all English.
A p.c. from V.P. today tells me that Mr. *Parez*
wants to come on the 27th October: is it not aggravating? He
wants to take us on his return from a tour in Scotland. I don't
know how the students are to get their lessons ready but it will
be a good thing to have it over. There seems to be an absolute
fatality against their coming up to the Conference but they are
not a very brilliant set this year and I am not sure that they
would do us credit. However, we will talk about it when I come
for I think you will have to recast your syllabus a little to
meet the letters we are inviting about the Pamphlet. I doubt if
you would be able to manage the students evenings we had in view.
I think there might be some risk in asking Mr. Parez to change
his date as Leighton Buzzard is a long way off and he cannot
easily get away from his parish but if you adhere strongly to the
original plan, we will run risks.

How I long to see you all!

Dear love,

Ever Yours

C.M.

Kit-Kit sends love too.

SCHOOLS

October 24th, 1903.

Dearest,

My thoughts have been with you constantly. I believe this to be out most important Conference. Your programme is just splendid. I greatly enjoyed it displayed in "Education". Nature note books. You will receive a dozen on Monday sent one by one by post from several students. I hoped to send you some which had been on show in Cork, but they are still on the way here and our own books we have to show Mr. Perez. We shall have to change Cowell, he has been too tiresome, but I shall write of that later. ~~Exhausted~~.....

I hope dear Lady A. is keeping well and will be quite brilliant. Please tell me what she is to wear on the great occasion I like B.P 's word, or rather words, about Cyril and Michael and now I am seized with another strong conviction re the school which I shall put on another sheet in case you wish to read what I have to say out loud. Anyway I am sending you some circulars I have drawn up. If you like use them, if not suppress them, but talk about all this, I fear, will do no good, we must have a nucleus of schools, if only half a dozen. As for the common-minded people who may think we are advertising the P.H.S. that is no matter - we are not.

(page missing)

I think that schools that fully undertake the work, that is the schools that go in for the test examination on the prospectus, might definitely call themselves P.N.E.U. schools, or lower school P.N.E.U. We should then know what they were doing. The sending about papers vaguely, as to our friend Mr. Blank, is, I think, rather mischievous.

The Conference is much in my thoughts and prayers, dear. The old prayer that we may be kept in the unity of the spirit, which is the bond of peace. I have had an incapable week, but as you will see by this letter, I am fairly well again.

Ever yours,

C.M.MASON

✓

Scale How,

December 18th 1903

Yes, I know you were huslted and could not write.

I too have been very busy indeed. The end of the year is always a very busy time and rather exhaustint but I have kept very well. I am delighting in your Swiss prospect. I have been studying pictures in the Daily Graphic of alpine sports and see you Sh ing. I was very much disappointed not to be able to get off the statements re associates and schools. They were crowded out by things that could not be put off. It is rather sad because we begin so many books after Christmas that this is a good time for schools to join, but really there is no hurry What we want is to get the principle accepted the rest may well ve a work of time. How just splendid and precious is my Chela Thank God for her. She had had that whisper in her ear, but the need for her to do something appears in this that not two or three or even the Executive have made the intellectual effort necessary to understand what we are about and neither you nor I should be willing to spend our day in arranging pleasant lectures for more or less interested audiences. We want to do something which will really influence education. Tell me about the Bedales play. Dearest love,
Ever yours,
Glad the children like Goblin Market.

P.T.U.

1903 June Convention
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Scale How,
Ambleside.

June 1st
(?) 1903
or '04

Dearest,

How absolutely provoking about Croydon! So altogether unexpected! What dear good provoking Mrs. Hill told me she didn't know people and couldn't do anything therefore beyond asking a few friends to tea. This, re the opening of the Branch which she spoke of with desire.

Next, how good and delightful to think of you sitting under your oak, at play with one baby or another, or reading with the elders and how good to know that dear Madge is flourishing. Give the Girlie my dear love. I wish wee Michael were quite good, but Miss Webb writes hopefully I have been slaving with that paper, - first revise - quite breathlessly. You will soon have it. Lady Campbell will read it beautifully and it is very good of her. Please give her my very appreciative thanks. 2,500 would do - but Cowell must keep up the type. My dear, do you know where we are arriving at? A revolution in school children's education up to 14; and we must send round to teachers broadcast. But we can organise the campaign after the 8th. Miss Armfield will need temporary assistance. I suppose you are going here and there, you propose to be up - and indeed, I don't know how anything would go without you. It would be well if you could speak a few words of points

and purpose re this campaign, but Lady A. must really drop such absurdities as "lament" - 100 means quite satisfactory work, and the idea of excelling does not enter in. Before you decide that the work is not satisfactory, compare it with work in the same subject of a large number of children in good schools. Writing of course only means the line or two called "writing" in the exam. To make the children write the whole paper under the ⁵constraint of marks for writing would take away all spontaneity. Now just be sweet and good and believe with all that big heart which I love. There will be plenty of fools to scoff, but we want to carry a tremendous reform - and faith, our own faith, must be our lever.

One thing more - I am writing an appreciation of Mr. Rooper. Will you read it? Our work is especially associated with his name in the "Times" notice and I feel we were remiss not to send representatives to the funeral.

Will you send me back the paper I am forwarding? Miss W. is writing to Kit Kit who is in Bristol re the exhibits. I want to send up for the 8th all the old exam papers we have - between 2 and 300. Can you do with them? I am too horribly busy to write to her perhaps you will send this news to B.P. with my dear love and thanks for her sweet letter. Do do be careful of "our Lady A." and give her heaps of love from.

C.M.

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✓

Dictated.

Ambleside,

8. 2. 1904.

Dearest,

Here is goodness and virtue! A long synopsis of our teaching - copies of which I have sent to Miss Armfield for each member of the Committee! That is what your last letter has produced.

Now you will have a foundation for any p
talking or writing you may have to do.

You can easily tell people that I am in treaty with the publishers to produce the 5 or 6 volumes which contain "us" at 3/6 each. I have tried for 2/6 but they decline, anyway 3/6 does not come to much more than 2/6 net. But people must have their own books.

I sent you the suggestions for work in my former letter but merely that you may depart from them. I think it much better that the Committee should organise. My own belief is that we shall find the Union very ready to respond and that a good many members will become associates. That is, persons who really know what they progress. I suppose you would accept persons who have got the H.E.C. Certificate without further study. There are only 2 or 3 of them. Ought we to have an Associates' Badge? That would be rather nice. But all such things will suggest themselves to you, i.e. the Committee!

Much love,
C.M.

Dictated

Ambleside,

12.2.1904

Dearest,

What news do you get from the Babes? I am ever so glad you like the Statement. Yes, I know there will be tiresome work on hand re.statement but I am less anxious to carry the point than that each Member of the Committee should feel that there is a "yea" or "nay" to be said. It is drifting which I think is so damaging; that is why I sent the "St." to each member. Besides it would be irregular to communicate a thing like this through you or anyone member and simply impossible for even Lady A. to give it intoto. But I never thought of different hours of arrival at the Office and at 50 Porchester (errace): I counted on the telephone. (Note by Miss Kitching: "both were posted at the same time").

I daresay this, too, will have to wait for "Posterity"(!) but it's well to have sown a little seed.

The question you raise is important so I shall write you a formal letter about it. I believe that work on the "St." will be really useful whether we succeed at first or not so I know your courage won't fail!

Chapter and verse - NO, best of Friends! - because it is all in the nature of line upon line, Precept upon Precept - every bit I think in Home Education, but unfolded and unfolded until the last pamphlet - but what I am doing is to make /a.....

careful table and contents which shall guide people in their studies, that is - if anybody does study.

Re. Schools: I fear they are hide-bound. I sent the papers and regulations to Miss Body and the Welsh lady who seemed really in earnest, asking that they should be returned if they were not adopted. The Welsh lady returns without a word! Miss Body has kept them and said nothing. Manners, you know, are at a premium!

The books frighten the dear people and I daresay they think I have an axe to grind. But truly I have not. The School is as full as we can easily manage and if we wanted more, why an advertisement in the Queen or the Guardian, for example, would bring us shoals of families.

However I am sending you the letters, the prospectus (showing fees, etc.) and if you came to have the matter worked through the Office, do so.

I think though in that case, the Office should have a fee of 10/- on every school admitted, besides the Annual Membership fee.

Alas, the paper we drew up seems to be lost but I think I have embodied it in the prospectus,

Dear love,

C.M.

I hope the schools admitted have paid their fees to Miss Armfield if not she should apply for them: Miss Field Hall, High Cliff Scarborough and Miss Berridge of Hampstead.